

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 168968  
ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 /020 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:RFSLUTZ:BB  
APPROVED BY S/NM:JLINNEMANN  
-----016444 040752Z /21

R 040701Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS STATE 168968

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: SNAR, AS

SUBJECT: PLAN FOR NATIONAL ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DRUGS  
FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE  
R 070727Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY MANILA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 6993

BANGKOK FOR DEA

MANILA FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SNAR, AS  
SUBJ: PLAN FOR NATIONAL ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DRUGS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 168968

1. PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED IN PARLIAMENT OCTOBER 5 THAT  
ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL ROYAL  
COMMISSION INTO DRUGS.

2. THIS PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT INCLUDED FACT THAT  
COMMISSION WILL BE HEADED BY JUSTICE E. S. WILLIAMS OF  
QUEENSLAND SUPREME COURT AND WILL COMMENCE WORK AS SOON

AS POSSIBLE. NO TIMETABLE FOR ITS ACTIVITY HAS YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMISSION COVER EXTENT AND METHODS OF ILLEGAL PRODUCTION, TRADE AND TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS, THE EXTENT OF ILLEGAL USE OR DIVERSION OF DRUGS AND OF THEIR MISUSE, RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN NARCOTIC AND OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, THE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING LEGISLATION, PENALTIES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN RELATION TO THE DRUGS PROBLEM AND PROPOSALS IF ANY FOR NEW LEGISLATION OR OTHER MEASURES, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL TO MEET NARCOTICS PROBLEMS.

4. SCOPE OF COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES COVERS EVERY DRUG OR SUBSTANCE SPECIFIED IN ANY OF THE SCHEDULES TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS OR THE CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES.

5. THE NEW NATIONAL ROYAL COMMISSION, WHICH WAS WELCOMED BY THE OPPOSITION PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT, FOLLOWS THE PRIOR CREATION OF SIMILAR ROYAL COMMISSIONS IN THE STATES OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND IS A REFLECTION OF GROWING AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CONCERN OVER THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE. IN RECENT MONTHS MUCH ATTENTION WAS FOCUSED ON THIS SUBJECT BY THE DISAPPEARANCE AND PRESUMED MURDER OF A PROMINENT PRIVATE CITIZEN IN CENTRAL NEW  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 168968

SOUTH WALES WHO HAD TAKEN A LEADING ROLE IN ORGANIZING PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR STRONGER ENFORCEMENT OF NARCOTICS LAWS IN A REGION WIDELY BELIEVED TO CONTAIN LARGE SCALE ORGANIZED CULTIVATION OF MARIHUANA. THIS EPISODE AND OTHER BACKGROUND DEVELOPMENTS HAVE STIMULATED PUBLIC CONCERN OVER THE ROLE OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM.

6. THE FOUR STATES WHICH HAD NOT ESTABLISHED SEPARATE ROYAL COMMISSIONS HAVE AGREED TO PARTICIPATE OFFICIALLY IN THE NEW NATIONAL COMMISSION BY APPOINTING THE COMMONWEALTH ROYAL COMMISSIONER TO HEAD IDENTICAL INQUIRIES UNDER STATE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY. THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT INDICATED THAT EFFORTS WOULD CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SEPARATE ROYAL COMMISSIONS PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED IN NEW SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA. ALSTON VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUGS, NATIONALS, COMMISSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE168968  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RFSLUTZ:BB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780275-0269  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780797/aaaadebf.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 92ba7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SNM  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2121566  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PLAN FOR NATIONAL ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DRUGS FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT QUOTE R 070727Z OCT 77  
**TAGS:** SNAR, AS  
**To:** RIO DE JANEIRO SAO PAULO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/92ba7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014